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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/512,815	DAL PAN, ALFREDO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kevin P. Kerns	1725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 12 November 2003.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 17-26.
3.  The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

5.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - (a)  The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed 11/18/02 & 11/12/03, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)          |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.            |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No. _____  | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                  |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
|   | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

(all amendments are made with respect to the "clean copy" of the substitute specification of November 18, 2002, unless otherwise noted)

On page 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> lines, delete "or outlines" after "models".

On page 8, 2<sup>nd</sup> line of the 2<sup>nd</sup> full paragraph, insert --positioning-- before "element 27".

On page 8, 4<sup>th</sup> line of the 4<sup>th</sup> full paragraph, insert --bracket-like-- before "structure".

On page 9, 5<sup>th</sup> line, replace "device" with --substation--.

On page 9, 5<sup>th</sup> line from the bottom, insert --control-- before "unit 113".

On page 9, 2<sup>nd</sup> line from the bottom, replace "C: the" with --C. The--.

On page 10, last line of the 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph, replace "there" with --thereby-- before "cover".

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On page 10, 3<sup>rd</sup> line of the 3<sup>rd</sup> full paragraph, replace "on" with --no-- before "undescribed".

On page 10, 7<sup>th</sup> line of the 3<sup>rd</sup> full paragraph, replace "S" with --F-- after "sand".

On page 11, 5<sup>th</sup> line, replace "formations" with --lifting organs-- before "31a".

On page 11, 1<sup>st</sup> line of the 2<sup>nd</sup> full paragraph, replace "The said vibratory" with --Vibratory--.

On page 11, 2<sup>nd</sup> line of the 3<sup>rd</sup> full paragraph, replace "formations" with --organs-- before "31a".

On page 11, 5<sup>th</sup> line from the bottom, replace "114a, 114b" with --114 (114a, 114b)--.

On page 13, 4<sup>th</sup> line of the 3<sup>rd</sup> full paragraph, insert --as well as the-- before "level".

In the amendment of March 24, 2003, as referring to page 12 of the substitute specification, also make the following changes to the specification:

On page 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> line from the bottom, of the amendment, delete "50" after "means".

On page 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> line, replace "mould" with --model-- before "S".

On page 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> line, replace "claims" with --clamps-- before "112".

On page 2, 10<sup>th</sup> line, insert --114b of the centering formations-- after "pins".

On page 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> line from the bottom, replace "mould" with --model-- before "S".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art references of record (Edge in view of either Travillian or Rikker) fail to teach or suggest the inventive limitations set forth in the last 3 lines in independent claim 17, as Edge teaches a flexible gripping connection, while the Travillian and Rikker references individually teach rigid gripping connections, and the Travillian and Rikker gripping connections are deemed to be "teaching away" from what is disclosed by Edge (and are therefore non-obvious). In addition, the applicant explains these features in detail on page 9, last 9 lines, as well as page 10, first 4 lines, of the applicant's amendment of November 12, 2003.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The proposed drawing corrections were received on November 18, 2002 and November 12, 2003. These corrected drawings are approved by the examiner. The application having been allowed, formal drawings are required in response to this Office Action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Kevin P. Kerns whose telephone number is (571)

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272-1178. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Dunn can be reached on (571) 272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Kevin P. Kerns  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1725

KPK  
kpk  
January 28, 2004

Kiley Stoner AU 1725  
Kiley Stoner 1/28/04